



Some side effects may occur.

Meredith Cook

(performance, textiles, mask)

Artist Statement: The concept behind this performance piece was to construct a body armor to protect me from the preconceived notions of others. Devoid of all color, my outfit was constructed in shades of gray. I changed the gender of my appearance to androgynous, and wore a mask to strip my face of emotional expression. The mask is constructed out of black and white photos of my face pasted onto a generic facial form. The following statement was read in a monotone voice during the performance:

We are defined by our colors. From birth we are sorted into pinks and blues based on our genders. Further distinction looks to our skin to subdivide us into blacks, whites, browns, yellows and reds. As color coded packages, we categorize and label ourselves into a set of expectations that define who we